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February 23, 2022

The Honorable Michael Tadych Director of VA Puget Sound Health Care System

Dear Director Tadych,

I am writing to urge you and the VA to take the necessary steps to redeploy the Mobile Medical Unit to Raymond, Washington in Pacific County. This is an invaluable resource that veterans in Pacific County utilized to receive essential health care services without having to travel long distances from home.

My district has seen the substantial benefit that Mobile Medical Units can provide to veterans in remote and rural communities. Several years ago, I worked alongside veteran-care advocates to secure the deployment of a Mobile Medical Unit to Raymond. My office has been told that the VA stopped deploying the Mobile Medical Unit to Pacific County at the onset of the COVID pandemic. This halt in deployment has cut off access to critical care for veterans in rural and remote areas. Veterans need access to health care services, support, and care now more than ever before.

I urge the VA to redeploy the Mobile Medical Unit to Pacific County as soon as possible, and work with community advocates to coordinate appointments for veterans in need. While the COVID-19 pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges to our health care system, it is imperative that we ensure veterans continue to have access to care.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jaime Herrera Beutler

Jaime Herrera Beutler Member of Congress